1	2	3	4	5
(b) For deposits for 1 year and above but less than 2 years	6.50	6.25	4.00	1.25
(c) For deposits for 2 years and above But less than 3 years	7.25	6.75	4.75	1.50
(d) For deposits for 3 years only	7.50	7.00	5.00	2.00

(c) In the context of the volatility in the money and foreign exchange market, a number of measures were taken by RBI since October, 1995 to augment the resources of the banking system and to improve the flows in the foreign exchange market. As part of this policy, several measures were taken to enhance the attractiveness of the deposit Schemes for Non-Resident Indian (NRIs) both to the depositors and to banks including higher rate of interest on Non-Resident External (NRE) deposits.

Signing of MOUs

2749. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Memorandum of Understandings signed in Maharashtra, Karnataka and West Bengal with foreign equity participation as on March 31, 1995, separately;

(b) the net investment made by NRIs and foreign companies in this regard; and

(c) the details of projects in which the investment has been made particularly in the field of power, heavy industry and petroleum sector?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c). The information & details regarding MOUs signed by the State Governments & follow up action thereon are not available with the Central Government.

[Translation]

Upgradation of Technology for Small Scale Sector

2750. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether small scale sector requires the upgradation of technology presently being used by them and other assistance required so that in the field of export small scale sector can compete with domestic and foreign market; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To facilitate upgradation and modernisation of technology, Government of India has set up Process and Product Development Centres (PPDCs), Tool Rooms, Testing Centres, etc. at places of clusters. These Institutes cater to the needs of the Industry concerning design, development and testing. A Technology Development and Modernisaton Fund with a corpus of Rs.200 crores has been set up in the SIDBI for financing the export oriented projects for modernisation and technology upgradation in the SSI Sector. This scheme has become operational with effect from 21.4.1995. To facilitate modernisation & transfer of technology, Govt. has also created Trust Fund operated through registered societies with the involvement of Non-Govt. Organisations (NGOs)/Associations.

To encourage the units in small scale sector to develop total quality management (TQM) to improve the quality of their products, Govt. of India as well as SIDBI are reimbursing the part cost of acquisition of ISI-9000 series certification.

Coal Distribution

2751. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal under their consideration pertaining to the coal distribution to the retail sellers of coal from Rajhara Coal Mines of C.C.L.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise, in view of reply given to (a) above.

[English]

Rehabilitation Industries Corporation

2752. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rehabiliation Industries

Corporation, which was floated for the economic rehabilitation of the displaced people from the erstwhile East Pakistan is itself in desperate need of rehabilitation;

(b) the reasons for which the Union Government dithering on its 32 crore revival scheme; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken to save the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c). Rehabilitation Industries Corporation (RIC) has been a chronically sick company. Its accumulated loss as on 31.3.1996 is Rs. 328.19 crore (provisional).

In the recent years studies have been carried out by consultants engaged by RIC, and a Revival Committee which has been set up has also submitted a revival plan. Besides, the management of RIC has prepared an action plan. The recommendations contained in the above mentioned revival reports are at variance with each other in respect of other related aspects. Hence, a detailed examination is being undertaken to explore the possibility of the economic revival of RIC.

Public Sector Industrial Units in Kerala

2753. SHRI N.K. PERMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up public sector industrial units in Kerala;

(b) the number of public sector industrial units owned by the Union Government which are running in profit;

(c) whether any industrial unit of the Union Government in Kerala has been declared as sick; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) At present there is no proposal to set up any new Central Public Sector unit in the State of Kerala.

(b) During the year 1994-95, all the five Central Public Sector Undertakings located in Kerala made profits.

(c) and (d). No Central Public Sector Undertaking having registered office in the State of Kerala is sick.

Nagaon Paper Mill Assam

2754. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of Nagaon Paper Mill (HPC) Assam has been decreased;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the production thereof during each of the last three years;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve the production of the said mill;

(e) whether the paper mill is sought to be handed over to private sector; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. The production is on the increase at Nagaon Paper Mills of Hindustan Paper Corporation.

(c)

Year	*Production*
93-94	67,482MT
94-95	72,165MT
95-96	80,855MT

(d) Action has been taken by Hindustan Paper Corporation to improve efficiency in the areas of pulp mill, recovery section and paper machine.

(e) and (f). No, Sir.

Pending applications for Industrial approval

2755. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state ;

(a) whether the Union Government have received many applications from Andhra Pradesh for setting up of industries for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof as to the nature of industry, locations, management etc.; and

(c) by when the decision on these applications is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. During the period January, 1993 till June, 1996, a total number of 247 Industrial Licence applications for setting up industries in Andhra Pradesh have been received. Out of these, upto 25th July, 1996, 137 have been approved, 23 have been rejected, 57 have been treated as withdrawn/licence not required. The approvals have been granted for setting up of various industries in Medak, Rangareddy, Nalgonda, Hyderabad, Chittoor, Cuddapah, East Godavari districts for the manufacture of various items viz. drugs, chemicals, sugar, textiles, etc.

(c) All steps are taken for speedy disposal of applications. Actual disposal of applications depends on the sectoral policy adopted by the Administrative Ministry, their recommendations, in